



# United States Department of the Interior

## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Water Resources Division  
P. O. Box 26659  
Albuquerque, NM 87125

May 13, 1981

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SK

Date: 6/25/13

Governor Harry Early  
Pueblo of Laguna  
P. O. Box 194  
Laguna, New Mexico 87026

Dear Governor Early:

Our agency is presently involved in evaluating the potential impacts of reclamation on surface and ground waters in the ~~Tackpile~~-Paquate uranium mine area. This study will be an important part of the Environmental Impact Statement being prepared for the mine.

Information presently available on the hydrology of the mine and surrounding area is limited mainly to data supplied by The Anaconda Company and interpretive studies conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey under an agreement of confidentiality with the Pueblo of Laguna. Use of the basic data and hydrologic interpretations contained in these confidential reports will be essential for a complete and accurate evaluation of the effects of reclamation on water resources in the mine area.

We hereby request permission to use basic data from the report "Summary of Water Resources Investigations on the Pueblo of Laguna, New Mexico, 1973-75" by F. P. Lyford. We also request permission to publish in the USGS Open-File Series the report presently being prepared by Dennis Risser, entitled "Water Resources of the Pueblo of Laguna, New Mexico", so that the data and interpretations may be quoted in the Environmental Impact Statement. Because the Environmental Impact Statement will be a public document, the interpretive material from the latter report would be impossible to use without prior public release of the report to the "open file".

We request your permission to release this essential material as soon as possible so that work on the Environmental Impact Statement will not be delayed.

Sincerely,

*James F. Daniel*

James F. Daniel  
District Chief

JFD/sb

cc: Mark Nelson  
Robert White  
Dennis Risser  
Frank Jones

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 15 1981**

**PUEBLO OF LAGUNA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE**



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